

Self-editing “This I Believe” Essay

- Do I have a clear “I believe” statement (in bold)?
- Did I show that I live my life by my belief with interesting, powerful stories?
 - NOTE: A statement like: “When I was little, I was very selfish” is not a story. Provide a specific example of whatever point you are trying to make.
- Did I avoid referring to the story/example as an example? (In other words, just tell the story without saying something like, “Here is an example of a time when....”)
- Did I break my essay into logical paragraphs?
- Did I proofread carefully for complete sentences (no run-ons and fragments).
- Did I check for proper spelling, periods, and capitalization?
- Did I start my essay with a powerful introduction that captures the reader’s attention?
- Did I close my essay with a conclusion that does NOT repeat but that DOES provide closure and is thought-provoking?

Peer-editing “This I Believe” Essay

- Does your peer have a clear “I believe” statement (in bold)?
- Does your peer’s essay show that he/she lives life by his/her belief with interesting, powerful stories? NOTE: A statement like: “When I was little, I was very selfish” is not a story. Provide a specific example of whatever point you are trying to make.
- Does your peer avoid referring to the story/example as an example? (In other words, just tell the story without saying something like, “Here is an example of a time when....”)
- Did your peer break his/her essay into logical paragraphs?
- Does your peer proofread carefully for complete sentences (no run-ons and fragments).
- Did your peer check for proper spelling, periods, and capitalization?
- Did your peer start the essay with an introduction that captures the reader’s attention?
- Did your peer close his/her essay with a conclusion that does NOT repeat but that DOES provide closure and is thought-provoking?